

Applicant: John David Breiten  
Application No.: 10/815,179  
Response to Office action dated Aug. 22, 2006  
Response filed September 20, 2006

### **Claim Listing**

1. (original) A doctor blade in a papermaking machine, comprising:  
an elongated doctor blade body;  
a database; and  
a plurality of indicia, each indicia marked on said blade body, wherein the indicia and the database together indicate cut locations on the blade corresponding to a plurality of different doctor blade lengths.
2. (original) The doctor blade of claim 1 wherein the database is incorporated in the plurality of indicia.
3. (original) The doctor blade of claim 1 wherein the database is separate from the plurality of indicia.
4. (original) The doctor blade of claim 1 wherein a first pair of indicia are spaced a first distance apart to define a first doctor blade length, and wherein a second pair of indicia defining a second doctor blade of length less than the first distance is positioned between the first pair of indicia, so that a second doctor blade can be cut from a portion of the elongated doctor blade body defined by the first doctor blade length.

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5. (original) The doctor blade of claim 1 further comprising a plurality of rivets mounted to the elongated doctor blade body, the rivets extending from the blade body, wherein the plurality of rivets are arranged so that each of the plurality of different doctor blade lengths defines a first end and a second end and one rivet of the plurality of rivets is positioned within a selected distance of each of said first ends and said second ends.

6. (currently amended) A reel of doctor blade material for use in a papermaking machine, comprising:

an elongated doctor blade body from which a multiplicity of doctor blades of the type used in a papermaking machine can be cut;

a first pair of indicia marked on said blade body delimiting a first doctor blade of the type used in a papermaking machine of a first length; and

a second pair of indicia marked on said blade body delimiting a second doctor blade of the type used in a papermaking machine of a second length, the second length being less than the first length, wherein the indicia denote a relationship to each other.

7. (currently amended) The reel of doctor blade material of claim 6 wherein the [[the]] second pair of indicia are positioned between the first pair of indicia so that the second doctor blade can be cut from a portion of the elongated doctor blade body defined by the first doctor blade.

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8. (original) A doctor blade, comprising:

a database;

an elongated doctor blade body; and

indicia in the form of a number line marked on said doctor blade body so that by means of the database a plurality of different lengths along the elongated doctor blade body are determinable.

9. (currently amended) A method of reducing a doctor blade inventory for a papermaking machine comprising the steps of:

stocking a plurality of identical doctor blades of the type used in a papermaking machine of first lengths which have indicia thereon;

using a first one of said identical doctor blades in a first position on a papermaking machine; and

cutting a second one of said identical doctor blades in reference to the indicia thereon to a second length which is less than the first length, and using the second doctor blade in a second location in the papermaking machine.

10. (original) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of cutting a third one of said identical doctor blades in reference to the indicia thereon to a third length and using the third doctor blade in a third location in the papermaking machine, the third length being different than the first length or the second length.

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11. (original) The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of cutting a fourth one of said identical doctor blades in reference to the indicia thereon to a fourth length and using the fourth doctor blade in a fourth location in the papermaking machine, the fourth length being different than the first length, the second length, or the third length.

12. (currently amended) A method of reducing ~~a doctor blade~~ an inventory of doctor blades for use in a papermaking machine, the method comprising the steps of:  
stocking a coil of doctor blade material of the type used in a papermaking machine having a multiplicity of indicia thereon;  
cutting a first doctor blade of the type used in a papermaking machine of a first length by reference to two spaced apart indicia of the multiplicity of indicia, and using the first doctor blade in a first position on a papermaking machine; and  
cutting a second doctor blade of the type used in a papermaking machine of a second length by reference to two spaced apart indicia of the multiplicity of indicia, and using the second doctor blade in a second position on the papermaking machine, wherein the second length is different than the first length.

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of cutting a third doctor blade of the type used in a papermaking machine of a third length by reference to two spaced apart indicia of the multiplicity of indicia, and using the third doctor blade in a third position on the papermaking machine, the third length being different than the first length and the second length.

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14. (currently amended) A reel of doctor blade material of the type used in a papermaking machine comprising:
- an elongated doctor blade strip coiled on a cylindrical reel; and
  - a plurality of indicia formed on the doctor blade body indicating positions for cutting the doctor blade strip into a plurality of individual doctor blades of the type used in a papermaking machine, wherein each indicia is related to another indicia to indicate cut positions for doctor blades of different lengths, the indicia including a first marking and a second marking spaced a first distance from the first marking, and a third marking and a fourth marking, the third marking being spaced from the fourth marking a distance less than the first distance, the markings indicating where the doctor blade strip is to be cut to form a doctor blade of the type used in a papermaking machine of a desired length from the coiled blade strip.
15. (original) The reel of doctor blade material of claim 14 wherein the third marking and the fourth marking are positioned between the first marking and the second marking.
16. (original) The reel of doctor blade material of claim 14 wherein the doctor blade strip extends in an axial direction, and has an upper edge and a lower edge parallel to the upper edge, and wherein a plurality of rivets are fastened to the doctor blade strip adjacent the lower edge, and wherein the spacing of the rivets is greater between the first marking and the second marking, than the spacing of the rivets adjacent either the first marking or the second marking.

17. (original) A doctor blade in a papermaking machine, comprising:  
an elongated doctor blade body;  
a database; and  
a plurality of indicia, said indicia not including regularly spaced structural features on the doctor blade which perform a structural function, each indicia marked on said blade body, wherein the indicia and the database together indicate cut locations on the blade corresponding to a plurality of different doctor blade lengths.
18. (currently amended) A length of doctor blade material in a papermaking machine, comprising:  
an elongated doctor blade body from which a plurality of doctor blades of the type used in a papermaking machine can be cut;  
a first pair of indicating points on said blade body, delimiting a first doctor blade of a first length; and  
a second pair of indicating points on said blade body delimiting a second doctor blade of a second length, the second length being less than the first length, wherein at least one of the first pair of indicating points and the second pair of indicating points is an initial end of the doctor blade body, and the indicating points which are not the initial end of the doctor blade body comprise indicia on the doctor blade body.